

**GEDDINGTON NEWTON AND LITTLE OAKLEY PARISH COUNCIL -
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 11th APRIL 2016.**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Councillors M Rowley (Chair), C Buckseall, D Rushton, D Hodgkinson, N Batchelor and A Gordon.
Cllr J Padwick arrived at 7.35pm and Cllr D Watson arrived at 7.38pm.

APOLOGIES:

Councillor T Bailey.

001/17 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

ALSO PRESENT:

PCSO Margaret Lawson.

002/17 PUBLIC SESSION

a) Questions from the public

- i) PCSO Lawson explained why there were no crime statistics this month. A new system is being introduced but it is not yet fully operational.

PCSO Lawson was asked if she could speak to the relevant person(s) who frequently walks their horse on the path. This happens several times a week, one rider being on the path and one on the road. She will try to speak to them, but advised that when this happens it is best to telephone the police and obtain an incident number.

It was also reported that motor bikes are racing in the village, coming from the direction of the quarry and down Grange Road. They often have no number plates. Cllr Rushton added that cars in common travel at more than the advised 20 mph when in the village.

Defibrillator code – the code is obtained when you have to ring 999. The system has been checked and does work.

b) Reports from County and Borough Councillors

i) County Councillor.

There was no report from Cllr Harker.

ii) Borough Councillor

Cllr Rowley reported that he has attended a Members' information evening. Included was a detailed update as to issues concerning the East Kettering development.

The amount of rubbish in and around the area seems to have increased, with fly tipping (trade waste) also occurring. Cllr Rowley reported that the Borough Council had recently carried out two successful prosecutions for this problem.

003/17 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

a) Approval of Parish Council Minutes of the meeting held 14 March 2016

The Minutes were agreed to be a true record pending correction of the following:-

150/16 b) ii) Last para correction to "Town and Parish" Precepts.

Planning b) Date of meeting corrected to 19th March 2016.

b) Matters arising; progress on agreed actions

Actions from 14.3.16 reported as following:-

Action 1 The foliage around the signs by the roundabout at the end of Rockingham Road, Kettering has been partially cut back. Road signage for both this roundabout and the Stanion roundabout will be checked again (no timescale given for the checks).

Action 2 Letter sent to Ken Harden.

Action 3 & 4 The Parish Plan reports were printed successfully.

Action 5 (Cutback to trees by the ford plus foliage blocking street light on the bridge) – NCC want more details sending as to why the trees by the ford need cutback. NCC reported that they are not responsible for tree/foliage cutback around street light on the bridge.

Action 6 (freshly dropped tarmac by A4300). Contact details obtained and email sent to Stanion parish clerk

Action 7 Environment Services contacted about dredging of the River Ise – informed that dredging needs are monitored; it is not needed at present.

Action 8 Drain blockage reported to Street Doctor.

Action 9 Unknown person(s) have kindly cleared the ford already.

Action 10 Street light maintenance needed reported by Cllr Hodgkinson to Street Doctor.

Action 11 Cllr Rowley will chase arranging a meeting with Rachael Gladstone-Brown.

Action 12 Cllr Bailey was not present to give an update on reporting of potholes in and around Little Oakley.

Action 13 Cllr Rowley is pursuing sourcing of the self-inflating sand bags.

It was noted as the update for action 2 was given that the notice publicising the vacancies had been posted on the notice boards, with Ian White (KBC) to send an update as to next steps after 12th April 2016, to inform whether an election is needed.

Follow ons:-

ACTION1: *NCC reported that they are not responsible for tree/foliage cutback around street light on the bridge. The clerk to write to the owner of the trees to request cutback – Cllr Gordon to send the clerk contact details as to the resident.*

004/17 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING – Date to be arranged?

As per the suggestion after the 2015 Parish meeting, this will be held on the same day as the Parish Council monthly meeting, on 9th May 2016. Start time will be 6.30pm, with the AGM commencing at 7.00pm, and the monthly Parish Council meeting being held at 7.30pm as normal.

ACTION 2: **The clerk to advertise the meetings on the notice boards and extend the time that the hall is required on 9th May 2016.**

PLANNING.

a) **KBC Decision notices**

Kett/2016/0032 Penny Griffin, 10 West Street. The application has been withdrawn.

b) **Planning Applications.**

KET/2016/0200 Mr & Mrs White, 2 Grange Road, Geddington. Change of use from day nursery to residential, conversion to 1 x one bedroom flat and 2 x two bedroom flats, demolition of existing rear, side extensions and swimming pool enclosure, construction of 2 x detached garages, formation of new vehicle/ pedestrian access and increase width of existing vehicular access to 4.5m.

The Councillors had a detailed discussion as to the merits and disadvantages of the proposed development of the Lavender Blue nursery site. The nursery itself will close.

Comments raised were as follows:-

- The application is only yards from the conservation area; therefore any development needs to be sympathetic to the surrounding dwellings. No reference to the historical aspect of the building is mentioned, or the key site the plot holds in the village.
- The large old building will be sandwiched between two new developments.
- 18 parking spaces will be reduced to 10, plus 1 double garage. Parking and vehicular access need particular attention bearing in mind the previous/current parking and access to the site problems.
- The Core Strategy has identified and designated the areas needed for development; this development does not meet the Core Strategy: there is no need for additional housing in this particular area.
- The drawings showing the gaps between housing, appearing to be "stretched" - this does not tie in with measurements and there was concern that the development would appear cramped and over-developed once completed.

However,

- It is sensible development - there is not a demand in the village for large houses, as per highlighted in the Parish Plan.

- The current congestion concerning parking at this junction should be addressed by the development.

- It was felt that on balance, the plan is not controversial for the village or immediate nearby area.

Cllr Padwick proposed that the Parish Council choose to accept the development. It is sensible, fits in with the village requirements, does not affect the surrounding area and is not controversial. Seconded by Cllr Gordon, all Cllrs present agreed with the proposal.

Cllr Padwick left the meeting at 8.23pm.

c) Parish Plan – update, to include volunteers’ meeting (19 March 2016)

Cllrs Hodkinson/ Rushton/ Padwick

Cllr Hodkinson reported that the volunteers’ meeting had concentrated on subject matters rather than how the plan will progress forward.

One matter raised was that the church yard is full, with only two grave spaces left. Local knowledge confirmed that Val Bellamy had looked into this issue in 2007/ 8 when the project was run by Revd. Giles Godber and Chris Sparrow. The only available land was the Stonepit land and behind the allotments. The alternative was 10 feet of soil being laid on top of old graves. However, the Diocese was against this idea.

Provision of graves space is a Parish Council responsibility. It was stated that if no land is forthcoming from Boughton Estates, the only land available is the Stone pit land. However, the ground is too hard for such a use. The dog walking area is unsuitable being wet and marshy.

ACTION 3: Cllr Rowley will speak to Revd. Rob Parker-McGee for an update as to options.

Cllr Hodkinson said that the Parish Plan needs to be published electronically, and put onto Facebook.

ACTION 4: Cllr Rushton will add it to the Facebook page.

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

005/17 CPRE – Free event – Spring Road Show Thurs 12.3.16 Gt Houghton Hall

006/17 KBC – Work Programme

007/17 BDO annual return paperwork.

008/17 Email from PCSO Margaret Lawson – defibrillator code

009/17 Ncalc – Survey for individual councillors to complete.

010/17 Ncalc – E-update Mar- Apr 2016

011/17 Press release from Police 7 Crime Commissioner (Operation Fix It)

012/17 KBC – change of date for Rural Forum to 2.7.16

013/17 Public Sector Show 2016 – free event on 2.6.16

014/17 Anglian Water – awareness of new campaign “Pollution Watch”.

Newsletters.

015/17 Vulnerability Network Service – Fuel Poverty March 2016

016/17 Rural economy spotlight 16.3.16

017/17 Weekly News 21.3.16

018/17 Spotlight on heart of the village 23.3.16

019/17 Weekly Email News Digest - Rural Opportunities Bulletin 2.3.16

Comments:-

012/17 – Cllr Watson commented that changing the date of the Rural Forum to a date in the middle of the holiday season did not make sense. The date may however be further amended.

020/17: FINANCE

a) Community account statement as at 17.03.16 £ 5,691.85

Business Saver account as at 17.03.16 £10,722.74

b) **Accounts received**

None

c) **Accounts for payment**

Boughton Estates Ltd	£570.00	Playing field – rental period 30.9.15 – 29.3.16
Kettering Borough Council	£62.00	Printing services – Parish Plan report
Ncalc	£39.00	Code of Conduct in practice – 17.3.16 Cllr Doug Hodkinson
Geddington Village Hall	£157.50	Hire of lounge for council meetings 2016 – 1 st 1/2 yr fee
Ncalc	£512.88	Membership subscription – to yr end 31.3.17
Cllr Doug Hodkinson	£14.00	Expenses (stationery) incurred for the Parish Plan Volunteers meeting.

The amount payable for the Ncalc invoice was queried by Cllr Watson, as this may have increased substantially from last year. It was agreed by all Cllrs that the invoice would be checked, and payment could proceed if it was a similar amount to last years.

ACTION 5. The clerk to check the Ncalc invoice against last year’s invoice.

d) Annual audit 2015/16 - Internal auditors to be approved.

It was noted that approval of internal auditors was approved at the Parish Council AGM in May 2015.

Cllr Watson said that as regards to the BDO form, the questions are the same as last year. Public consultation has to take place by 1st July 2016.

021/17 ENVIRONMENTAL & RECREATION

a) Geddington Cricket Club – consultation regarding licensing hours for supply of alcohol and playing of music. Consultation period ends 12 April 2016.

Cllr Rowley commented that the licensing hours were slightly different from the Village Hall’s. The Saturday/Sunday times ended at 1.00am on Sunday. It was thought that it should be the same as the Village Hall with the end time of midnight. It was noted that there should be nobody on the recreation field from dawn to dusk either and such a late finish may lead to drinking on the playing field.

ACTION 6: The Parish Clerk to send comments of the Parish Council to the Licensing authority.

Cllr Watson left the meeting at 8.47pm.

022/17 HIGHWAY STREET/ LIGHTING/ FOOTPATHS/ ROAD SAFETY.

a) Adopt a lamp post – scheme suggestion by Geddington resident. - Cllr Hodkinson.

Cllr Hodkinson reported that in response to his informing the resident of 48 West Street of the update regarding the street light, the resident had suggested the above scheme. Cllr Rowley informed Cllrs that the Cabinet at KBC have now taken up the street light issue. David Howes is meeting Brendan on 20th April 2016 to find out all the facts on the street lights. The gentlemen's agreement of 1974 was raised, as was the issue of the general unawareness of what the finances are concerning street lights.

Cllr Rowley reiterated that at this stage, anything concerning street lights needs to be left alone. Cllrs therefore agreed that they have acknowledged the suggestion, but do not believe it is practical at the present time. They will however, keep it under consideration.

b) Street Lighting; Public Rights of Way – any issues raised or to be reported

The Grafton Road street light repair has not been carried out, even though repairs should only take 10 working days from when first reported. A further light needing maintenance will be reported by Cllr Hodkinson (Stamford Road opposite Queen Eleanor Road).

Cllr Hodkinson will also ask for some of the glass lanterns (on the old style lights) to be cleaned, as they are filthy.

023/17 NCC Children's Centre Services consultation 2016 – Sent to the Parish Council comment required?

No comments to be sent back to NCC relating to the document.

Newton & Little Oakley

There were no reports. Cllr Rowley said that talks were still being carried out to the proposed road/ hedge adjustments at the junction of Newton Road and the approach road to Newton.

Items for next month's Agenda / AOB

All Cllrs to consider the duties that they wish to be considered for at the Parish Council AGM.

Noted that next month's Parish Council meeting will be preceded by the AGM.

The meeting closed at 9.02pm.